

## Literary Terms

1. **Theme**-author's message or universal truth in the story
2. **Narrator**-speaker who tells the story
3. **Point of view**-the perspective from which a story is told
4. **Omniscient**-story told by all or many of the characters
5. **Limited omniscient**-story told by the viewpoint of one character 3<sup>rd</sup> person or 1<sup>st</sup> person (character narrates his/her own experience directly)
6. **Stream of consciousness**-presents the thoughts of a character
7. **Protagonist**-central character of the story
8. **Tone**-suggests the writer's or narrator's **own attitude** toward the story
9. **Climax**-when the action comes to the highest point of dramatic conflict
10. **Conflict**-the story problem
11. **Foreshadowing**-clues about events that will happen later in the story
12. **Imagery**-selected details to describe one thing in terms of another, figures of speech
13. **Irony**-the speaker intends a meaning that is opposite to the words he says
14. **Characterization**-communicating information about the characters to the reader
15. **Subplots**-secondary story line involving secondary characters contrasting the main plot conflicts involving the central character
16. **Dramatic irony**-the reader knows more about the situation than the characters
17. **Foil**-a character that brings out specific traits of a major character
18. **Serial plotting**-creating suspense through a series of cliffhangers
19. **Symbol**-image, object, character that stands for an idea
20. **Genre**-type of book like biography, fiction, nonfiction, historical/historical fiction, fantasy, science fiction